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08-17-05

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	10/826,079
		Filing Date	April 16, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Donald G. Wheatley
		Art Unit	3612
		Examiner Name	Kiran B. Patel
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	17	Attorney Docket Number	3110-0000039

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawings (12 Sheets)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of Formal Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

Remarks

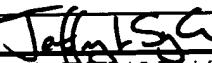
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name Stanley M. Erjavac / Jeffrey L. Snyder	Reg. No. 38,442 / 43,141
Signature			
Date	August 16, 2005		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Jeffrey L. Snyder	Express Mail Label No.	EV 570 164 897 US	8/16/05
Signature		Date	August 16, 2005	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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EV 570 164 897 US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/826,079

Filing Date: April 16, 2004

Applicant: Donald G. Wheatley

Group Art Unit: 3612

Examiner: Kiran B. Patel

Title: COVERING STRUCTURE HAVING AUTOMATIC
COUPLING SYSTEM

Attorney Docket: 3110-000039

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated June 16, 2005, Applicant makes the following observations.

Applicant respectfully acknowledges the Examiner allowing this application. With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, however, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has incorrectly summarized the patentable features of the present invention. Most notably, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has misstated the claim elements of independent Claim 1 when describing "a retaining retaining member retaining said bow member when said bow member is in

said member operably coupled to said support frame, said first position and releasing said bow member when said bow member is in said second position." With respect to said bow member when said bow member is in said second position." With respect to Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that each and every claim limitation set forth therein is not found in the prior art of record and, thus, deserves the broadest scope of interpretation. Likewise, Claim 10 sets forth claim limitations that differ in scope relative to those set forth in Claim 1, yet deserve the broadest scope of claim interpretation.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated June 16, 2005 are at best incomplete and in part incorrect and, thus, should be read in light of the comments set forth herein.

If the Examiner would like to discuss this matter further, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 16, 2005

By:



Stanley M. Erjavec, Reg. No. 38,442
Jeffrey L. Snyder, Reg. No. 43,141

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

NOA: June 1, 2005

Application No.: 10/826,079

Filing Date: April 16, 2004

Applicant: Donald G. Wheatley

Group Art Unit: 3612

Examiner: Kiran B. Patel

Title: COVERING STRUCTURE HAVING AUTOMATIC
COUPLING SYSTEM

Attorney Docket: 3110-000039

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

Sir:

Enclosed for filing are twelve (12) "Replacement Sheets" including formal drawings (Figs. 1-14) for the above-identified patent application. Applicant respectfully requests that the enclosed FORMAL DRAWINGS replace the most recent drawings filed with the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 16, 2005

By:


Stanley M. Erjavec, Reg. No. 38,442
Jeffrey L. Snyder, Reg. No. 43,141

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
248-641-1600